

finally slightly curved or straight, stout, initially increases in diameter towards root, terete, becoming tetragonal and grooved near the foliar cotyledons, glabrous. Cotyledons 2 (exhibit up and down nyctinastic movement but do not fold like leaves – also see Pijl 1952: 295, 302), opposite, foliar, 2.3-2.9 x 1.6-2.0 cm, yellowish-green at first, finally green, wither through yellow to brown at 4th leaf stage, slightly fleshy, elliptic, sometimes slightly asymmetric, entire, obtuse at apex, more or less so at base, glabrous, 5-nerved (the young foliar cotyledons appear to be 3 or 4-nerved), middle one bifurcates near apex; petioles *c.* 2 mm long, green, flattened above, semi-lunar in T.S., with prominent pulvinus at distal end; interpetiolar region with hair-like outgrowths. Stem green, erect, slender, slightly angled, somewhat zigzag at nodes, at first pubescent, finally glabrescent. Leaves alternate, 2.0-3.2 x 3.0-4.0 cm, 1st leaf not much smaller than others, green, suborbicular to broadly ovate, 9 (1st leaf) -11 (2nd to 4th leaves)-nerved (nerves clearly visible to the naked eye except those near extreme leaf-base), bifid *c.* 1/5 their length into subacute to broadly obtuse lobes at apex, mucronate between lobes, shallowly cordate at base, upper surface glabrous, lower surface pubescent mainly along nerves and with fine pits within areolae of reticulations; pits not so

closely situated as in mature leaves, each pit with a hyaline inflated trichome (see Tucker *et al.* 1984), which finally turns yellowish to rusty; petioles 1.3-2.4 cm long, green, herbaceous, dorsally grooved, with deep green pulvinus at both ends, pubescent, finally glabrescent. Stipules 2, minute, green, free, lateral, narrowly ovate, falcate, pubescent, deciduous.

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39. *SYZYGIVM NEESIANUM* ARN. (MYRTACEAE) — AN ADDITION TO THE INDIAN FLORA

(With one text-figure)

During a visit to Kodayar hills, Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu, an interesting

specimen of a tree species of *Syzygium* Gaertner (Family Myrtaceae) was collected. The characters

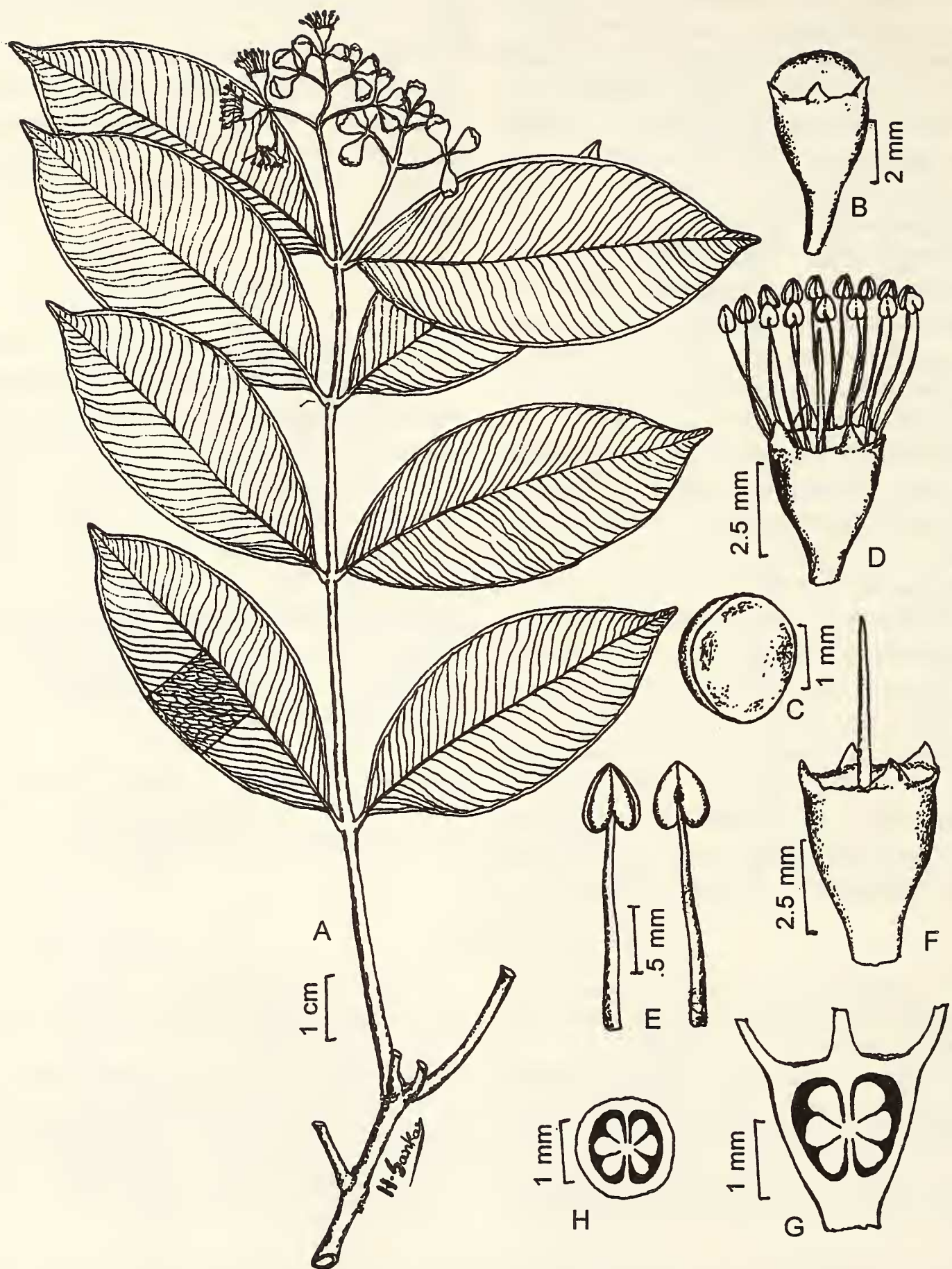


Fig. 1: *Syzygium neesianum* Arn.; A. Twig, B. Flower bud, C. Corolla, D. Flower without corolla, E. Stamen, F. Pistil with calyx, G-H. Ovary (L.S. & T.S.)

of this species do not agree with those of any known species of the genus from India. The tree was identified as *Syzygium neesianum* Arn., an endemic species of Sri Lanka (Ashton 1981). The present discovery is of great phytogeographical interest, and the specimens from Kodayar hills are identical to the Sri Lankan specimen housed in the Madras Herbarium (MH), Botanical Survey of India (Southern Circle), Coimbatore. A short description with illustration is provided to facilitate identification.

Syzygium neesianum Arn., L. Nova. Acta. Phys: Med. Acad. Caes. Teop. Carol. Nat. Cur. 18: 335. 1836; Thw., Enum Pl. Zeyl. 117: 1843; Alston in Trimen, Handb. Fl. Ceylon 6: 116. 1931; Ashton in Dassanayake & Fosberg, Rev. Handb. Fl. Ceylon 2: 442. 1981. *Eugenia neesiana* Wt., Ic. Pl. Ind. Or. t. 533. 1843; Duthie in Hook.f., Fl. Br. India 2: 493. 1879.

Small tree, to 6 m; branchlets terete, glabrous. Leaves opposite-decussate, oblong-lanceolate, 5-8 x 2-3.5 cm, coriaceous, glabrous, chocolate brown when dry, base subacute to subcordate, margin entire, slightly recurved, apex obtusely acuminate; lateral nerves many, sub-parallel; petiole 3 mm long, thick. Flowers 4 mm across, white, in terminal corymbose cymes, to 5 cm long; peduncle 3-10 mm long, terete; rachis 4-angled; pedicel up to 2 mm long; bract inconspicuous. Calyx-tube up to 3 mm long, glabrous; lobes 4, short, obscure. Petals 4, orbicular, up to 2 mm long, calyptrate, fugaceous. Stamens many, unequal, filaments filiform, 2-4 mm, cream; anthers ovate, c. 0.5 mm. Ovary inferior, globose, to 2 mm long, 2-loculed; 3-6 ovules in each, with central axile placentae; style

filiform, subulate, to 4 mm long; stigma simple, acute at apex.

Specimens examined: INDIA: Tamil Nadu, Kanyakumari district: Kodayar (upper) Manickam & Murugan XCH 12454; Kerala — Idukki district: Meenmutti, Mohanan, MH acc. No. 151501; Quilon district, Naduvanoor — Kadavu path, Mohanan MH Acc. No. 113376; Quilon district: way to Thenmalai, Mohanan MH Acc. No. 117379; Trivandrum district: Bonnacard, Mohanan MH Acc. no. 117381. SRI LANKA: MH 60885 (s.no. L.P. 735).

Note: The specimens collected from Kerala and kept in MH, are misidentified as *Syzygium caryophyllatum* (L.) Alston, but they belong to *S. neesianum* Arn. due to the presence of leaves with sub-cordate base and, acuminate apex and calyx with 4 lobes.

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40. SOME NEW RECORDS OF ASTERACEAE FOR THE STATE OF MAHARASHTRA

While carrying out intensive plant explorations in southwestern Maharashtra, three members of Family Asteraceae were collected, which on critical study were identified as *Cyathocline manilaliana* Raju and Raju, *Laggera*

alata (D. Don) Sch.-Bip. Ex. Oliver and *Wedelia glauca* (Ort.) S.F. Blake. Genus *Cyathocline* Cass. and genus *Laggera* Sch.-Bip. ex Koch. are represented by three species each and genus *Wedelia* Jacq. is represented by five species in